

<i>A. pedatifida</i>	<i>A. Porteri</i>
Pubescence grayer, less dense, and less silvery.	Pubescence denser, tighter, and more silvery.
All or nearly all of the basal leaves trifid.	Many of the basal leaves entire.
At least some of the cauline leaves trifid.	Cauline leaves all or nearly all entire.
Leaves 6-20 mm. long.	Leaves 2-5 cm. long.
Leaf-segments less than 1 cm. long.	Leaf-segments 1-2 cm. long.
Involucre 3-4 mm. high.	Involucre 5-7 mm. high.
Involucral bracts 7-13, typically 8.	Involucral bracts 12-15.
Pistillate flowers 3-8, typically 5, with corolla 1.3-1.7 mm. long.	Pistillate flowers mostly 8, sometimes 9 or 10, with corolla 2.1-2.8 mm. long.
Disk-flowers 5-15, typically 8 or 9 (larger numbers usually on terminal heads), with corolla 2.8-3.5 mm. long.	Disk-flowers 22-32 (terminal heads similar to the lateral ones), with corolla 4-4.5 mm. long.

Although the lateral heads of *A. Porteri* are ordinarily similar in size to the terminal head, a single head which had obviously been dwarfed by its immediate juxtaposition to a terminal head was dissected in an effort to determine extreme limits of variation. It had 11 involucral bracts, 6 pistillate flowers, and 16 disk-flowers, in these respects coming at about the upper limits for *A. pedatifida*; the corollas of both the pistillate and the sterile flowers, however, were of normal size for *A. Porteri*.

Although no definite information is available, it seems possible that *A. Porteri* is an autopolyploid derived from *A. pedatifida*. Whatever its mode of origin, *A. Porteri* is so far beyond the limits of variation of *A. pedatifida* as to demand taxonomic recognition.

Artemisia Porteri is named for its collector, who sent it to me as probably representing a new species.

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A NEW GENUS OF ECUADOREAN ARACEAE

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Recently, through the courtesy of Dr. Harold N. Moldenke of the New York Botanical Garden, the writer received a small packet of araceous plants for routine determination. Among these was a single sheet of a small, apparently terrestrial aroid from Ecuador, which, upon study, proved to be unreferable to any established genus. It forms the subject for the present paper.

The new genus, proposed herein as *Pseudohomalomena*, is a member, under the Englerian system of classification (Engler and K. Krause. Homalomeninae und Schismatoglottidinae. Das Pflanzenreich IV^{23Da}. 1912. Leipzig) of the Subfamily Philoden-

droideae, Tribe Philodendreae, Subtribe Homalomeninae, and is closest to *Chamaecladon* Miq. in its characteristics, though standing virtually alone in the subtribe because of its extraordinary spathe.

Pseudohomalomena, gen. nov. Herba terrestris verisimiliter acaulis. Petiolus folio brevior inferne leviter vaginatus. Lamina glabra erecta hastata longo-attenuata coriacea apice caudata margine undulata basi cordata, costa media subtus distincta supra obscura, nervis primariis adscendentibus ad marginem versus obscura. Pedunculus longus obscure angulatus sulcatusque valde divergens. Spatha magna planiuscula ovato-triangularis longo-caudata margine leviter undulata basi introrsa prominente nervosa chartacea. Spadix spatha brevior sessilis inflorescentia femina cylindroidea tertiam partem totius longitudinis aequante, masculina tota fertilis eae feminae arcte contigua. Flores unisexuales nudi, ei masculini truncati 2-5-andri, pistillati globosi vel urceolato-globosi obscure sulcati apice attenuati stigma unica orbiculari basi gracili plerumque obscure bilobata staminodio 1-3 ad basin florum pistillatorum inserto filamento gracili ovulis pluribus parietalibus pendulis.

Pseudohomalomena pastoensis sp. nov. Herba terrestris magna. Folium 29 cm. longum basi 15.5 cm. latum medio 12 cm. latum prope apicem 3.5 cm. latum, nervis primariis utrinsecus plus minusve 8, nervis secundariis prominentibus leviter anastomosantibus adscendentibus. Pedunculus 12 cm. longus medio 5 mm. latus. Spatha "lutea quasi alba basi virens" 22 cm. longa usque ad 14.75 cm. lata. Spadix "auranteo-luteus" plus minusve 8.5 cm. longus, basi 1 cm. latus apice 4 mm. latus, inflorescentia femina 2.5 cm. longa.

Terrestrial, rather large herb, apparently stemless. Leaf erect, glabrous, the lamina hastate, long-attenuate, coriaceous, probably yellowish-green with a darker orbicular area at basal center, 29 cm. long (counting the caudate apex, which in our specimen measures ca. 1.5 cm. in length), 15.5 cm. broad at base, 12 cm. wide at middle and 3.5 cm. near apex, base cordate, tightly undulate marginally; nerves more prominent below than above, the primaries about 8 on each side of the midrib, ascending marginally, the secondaries prominent, scarcely anastomosing, ascending. Petiole shorter than leaf, 13.5 cm. long, 1.2 cm. broad at base, narrowing to 6 mm. in middle and then expanding at leaf-junction to 1 cm., obscurely striate, probably terete and somewhat laterally compressed, conduplicate apically and vaguely undulate there. Peduncle curving, erect, spreading basally, ca. 12 cm. long, 5 mm. broad at middle, sparsely sulcate. Spathe "bright yellow, almost white, green basally" (*vide* collector), large, very spreading, nearly flat, ovate-triangular in general outline, chartaceous, long-caudate, rough-textured, slightly undulate marginally, the basal parts introrse, very prominently nervose throughout, obscurely and irregularly so within, 22 cm. long (counting the caudate apex,

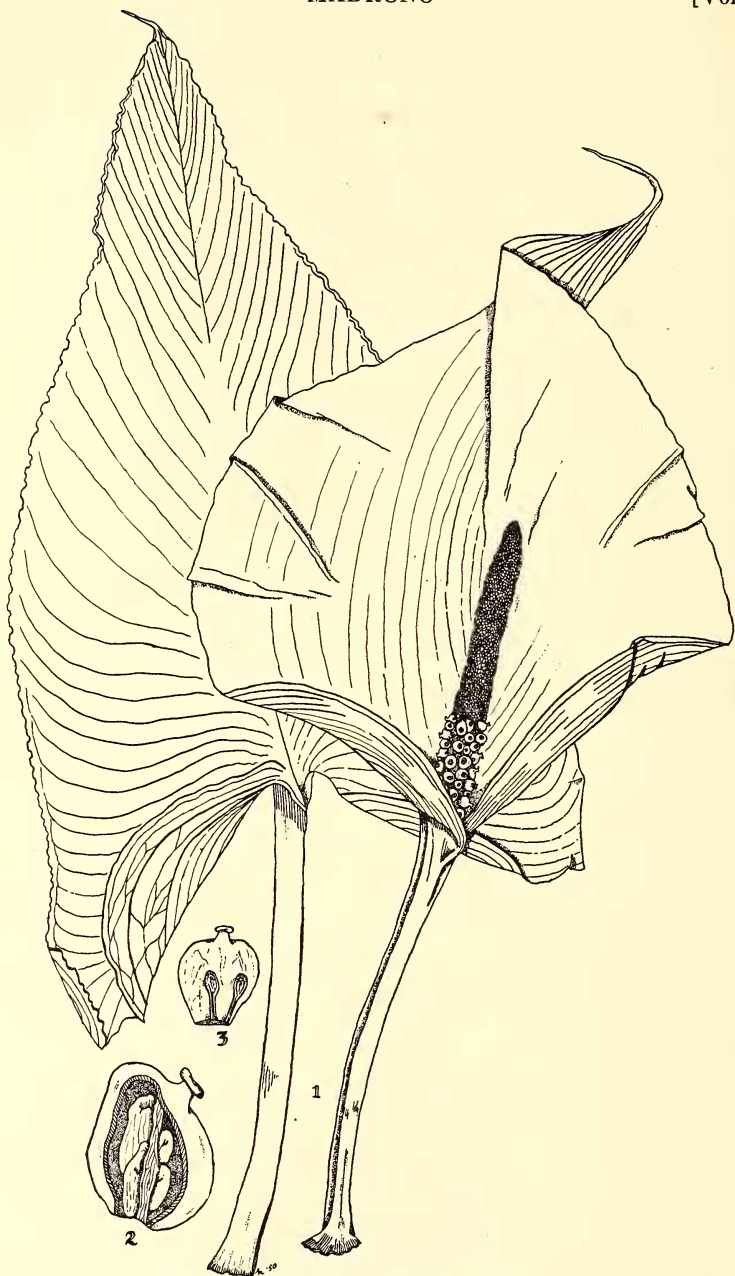


FIG. 1. *Pseudohomalomena pastoensis* gen. and sp. nov.: 1, leaf, spathe and spadix, all $\times \frac{1}{2}$; 2, single pistillate flower, cut open to show parietal placentation of the ovules, $\times 8$; 3, two staminodia at base of pistillate flower, $\times 3$. Drawn by the author.

which measures 4 cm. long and averages 1 mm. wide), 14.75 cm. wide at largest point. Spadix rigidly erect, "orange-yellow" (*vide* collector), about 8.5 cm. long, 1 cm. wide basally, narrowing to 4 mm. wide at apex, the basal 2.5 cm. composed of pistillate flowers, irregularly furnished with staminodes, the upper part all fertile, staminate; pistillate flowers globose to urceolate-globose, obscurely sulcate, slightly attenuated apically, surmounted by a solitary orbicular stigma which is narrowed basally and often obscurely bilobate, with 1-3 staminodes on slender filaments around base; ovules parietal, pendulous, few (4-5) in number. Staminate flowers contiguous with pistillate ones, truncate, with 2-5 stamens, producing very copious yellowish-white pollen.

Type. Pasto, altitude about 2500 m., Ecuador, April 22, 1950, *Reinaldo Espinosa 2866* (Herbarium of the University of California, no. 905798).

The genus *Pseudohomalomena* is virtually unique in the subtribe Homalomeninae in its widely-spreading, almost flattened, large spathe. The dimensions of this structure, coupled with the relatively small size of the spadix and the unusual vegetative habit, set the genus apart from its congeners, *Chamaecladon* Miq., *Curmeria* Lind. & Andre, *Diandriella* Engl. and *Homalomena* Schott.

The writer wishes to express his appreciation to Dr. Rimo Bacigalupi for assistance in the preparation of the Latin diagnoses.

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REVIEWS

Families of Dicotyledons. By ALFRED GUNDERSEN. The Chronica Botanica Company, Waltham, Massachusetts. xvii + 237 pp., illustrated. 1950. \$4.50.

Alfred Gundersen was born in 1877. In 1914, after due academic training, he joined the staff of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, in which institution he served for thirty-two years, at first as an assistant in the herbarium, later as Curator of Plants. The treatments of the classification of dicotyledons by Rendle, 1925, and Hutchinson, 1926, interested him in the studies of which the results are presented in the work here under discussion. This work is the continuation of a memorable series, extending back at least to Caesalpino, and it is at the same time the crowning and worthy achievement of one man's life.

Training, ability, and industry are evident throughout. Index and bibliography are duly provided. The illustrations are abundant, informative, and attractive. The publishers, the Chronica Botanica Company, have treated the publication as